

Claim 1 (original). A linker molecule, comprising one or more nucleic acid binding group(s) and one or more nanoparticle binding group(s) which are connected covalently by a spacer group.

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Claim 2 (original). A linker molecule according to claim 1, wherein said nucleic acid binding group is selected from the group of agents comprising intercalating agents, groove-binding agents, alkylating agents, and combinations thereof.

Claim 3 (original). A linker molecule according to claim 2, wherein the intercalating agent is selected from the group of compounds comprising acridines, anthraquinones, diazapyrenium derivatives, furanocoumarins (psoralens), naphthalene diimides, naphthalene monoimides, phenanthridines, porphyrins, and metal coordination complexes containing planar, aromatic ligands (metallointercalators).

Claim 4 (original). A linker molecule according to claim 2, wherein the groove-binding agent is selected from the group of compounds comprising bis-benzamidines, bis-benzimidazoles, lexitropsins, perylene diimides, phenylbenzimidazoles, porphyrins, pyrrole oligopeptides and viologens.

Claim 5 (original). A linker molecule according to claim 2, wherein the alkylating agent is selected from the group of compounds comprising aziridines, 2-chloroethane derivatives, epoxides, nitrogen mustards, sulfur mustards and metal coordination complexes having at least one leaving group ligand.

Claim 6 (original). A linker molecule according to claim 5, wherein the metal coordination complexes that are alkylating agents are selected from the group of complexes comprising Pt^{2+} , Pt^{4+} , Pd^{2+} , Ru^{2+} , Ru^{3+} , Rh^{1+} , Rh^{2+} , and Rh^{3+} having at least one ligand selected from the group comprising halide, water, di(alkyl)sulfoxide, nitrate, sulfate, carboxylate, substituted carboxylate, carbonate, phosphate, nitrite, sulfite, and hydroxide.